



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#10

Original Patent

Inventors: Alex Kalnitsky  
Yih-Shung Lin

Patent No.: 5,986,330

Title: ENHANCED PLANARIZATION  
TECHNIQUE FOR AN  
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Issued: November 16, 1999

Atty Dk No.: 93-C-023C3

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Reissue Application

Applicants: Alex Kalnitsky  
Yih-Shung Lin

Serial No.: 09/998,595

Title: ENHANCED PLANARIZATION  
TECHNIQUE FOR AN  
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Filing Date: November 16, 2001

Atty Dk No.: 93-C-023RE (1678-42)

**SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE  
INVENTORS**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below)  
or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are listed below) of the subject matter that is  
claimed in patent number 5,986,330 granted November 16, 1999, and for which a  
reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled:

ENHANCED PLANARIZATION TECHNIQUE FOR AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

the specification of which

- ☐ is attached hereto.
- ☒ was filed on November 16, 2001 as reissue application number 09/998,595 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable). If the filing date, amendment date, or reissue application number are not included when I execute this Declaration, I authorize the below appointed attorney(s) and/or agents(s) to insert the filing date, amendment date, or reissue application number when they become available.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below. (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ by reason of a defective specification or drawing.
- ☒ by reason of the patentee claiming less than he had the right to claim in the patent.
- ☐ by reason of other errors.

Errors upon which reissue is based are described as follows:

I believe that claims 1, 8, and 15 include limitations that overly narrow our invention. For example, our invention does not require "deposition of an interlevel dielectric." Therefore, we have added new, broader method claims 23 – 38.

I believe that claim 22 includes limitations that overly narrow our invention. For example, our invention does not require "an interlevel dielectric." Therefore, we have added new, broader semiconductor-structure claims 39 – 48.

All errors corrected in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on my part.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: all attorneys associated with Customer Number 30431.

Correspondence Address: Direct all communications about the application to:

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I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued prior to the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I hereby claim the benefit of priority, under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 35 U.S.C. § 120, of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate on which priority was claimed in the above-identified issued patent.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

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